

Amendment No. 3 to HB2135

**Armstrong
Signature of Sponsor**

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Date _____

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Clerk _____

Comm. Amdt. _____

AMEND Senate Bill No. 2432

House Bill No. 2135*

by inserting the following language as a preamble immediately preceding the enacting clause:

WHEREAS, requiring vision screening for children before entry into kindergarten, preschool, nursery school or child care would increase the opportunities to diagnose vision disease and injury and permit early treatment; and

WHEREAS, use of vision screening at the time a child begins the third grade provides the optimal opportunity to diagnose and treat myopia ("nearsightedness"); and

WHEREAS, providing early preventive vision care for children increases their overall health, productiveness, and potential as good citizens, and is thus also cost effective for the state of Tennessee; now therefore;

AND FURTHER AMEND by deleting all language after the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-5001, is amended by adding the following in subsection (b)(1), after the language "by subsection (a)" and before the punctuation ".":

,and provided with a vision screening by an appropriate medical provider

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-5001, is amended by adding the words "and vision screening" after the words "proof of immunization" in subdivision (c)(1) and in subsection (d).

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-5001(b)(2), is amended by deleting the word "and" after the words "such immunization" and before the words "other preventive measures" and by substituting instead the word "or".

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SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-5001(c)(2), is amended by adding the words "or provided a vision screening" after the words "not been immunized" and before the words "due to medical", and by adding the words "or vision screening" after the words "from such immunization" and before the punctuation ".".

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49--6-5001, is further amended by adding the following as new subsections (f) and (g) and by renumbering the current subsection (f) accordingly:

(f) In addition to the vision screening required under subsection (c), above, no child shall be admitted to the third grade of any public school without written proof of a vision screening that occurred within six (6) months of the date set for school admission.

(g) A vision screening deemed acceptable for admission to such entities is defined as a screening test recommended by a nationally recognized professional medical organization, such as the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Ophthalmology or American Optometric Association.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.